

1793

*John Davis Esq
Plymouth*

Mr. CLARKE'S
DISCOURSE,
TO THE
HUMANE SOCIETY.

MR. CLARK

DISCOVER

TO THE

NEW YORK

A
DISCOURSE,

DELIVERED BEFORE THE

HUMANE SOCIETY

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

AT THE SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING,

ELEVENTH OF JUNE, 1793.

BY JOHN CLARKE, A. M. A. A. S.
MINISTER OF THE FIRST CHURCH IN BOSTON.

But he said, weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth. *Luke viii, 52.*



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DISCOUSE

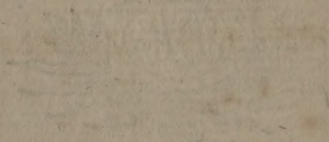
NEW MANU SOCIETY

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

AT THE GENERAL MEETING

OF THE SOCIETY

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BY THE SECRETARY

TO

THE PRESIDENT,

VICE-PRESIDENTS,

TRUSTEES,

AND

MEMBERS OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY

OF THE

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS,

THIS DISCOURSE

IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED,

BY

THE AUTHOR.

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THE PRESIDENT
VICE PRESIDENT

AT a semi-annual meeting of the HUMANE
SOCIETY, June 11th, 1793;

VOTED, That the Honourable THOMAS RUSSEL, JOHN LOWELL, ROBERT TREAT PAINE, and JAMES SULLIVAN, Esq's. and the Rev. Dr. SAMUEL PARKER be a Committee to wait upon the Rev. JOHN CLARKE, and return him the thanks of this Society for his ingenious discourse delivered this day, and to request of him a copy for the press.

Attest,

JOHN AVERY, jun. Secretary.



A

DISCOURSE, &c.

HOW common, and how just the observation of the sacred poet, that “we are fearfully, and wonderfully made!” There needed not however, his superiour abilities, much less his divine inspiration, to make this discovery. The human frame is indeed, an exquisite production. On every new examination, it presents new wonders; and furnishes new proofs of the infinite skill and goodness of its author. There is, I am sensible, no object in the whole kingdom of nature, which does not proclaim the wise agency of God. The sun, moon, and stars, those preachers and apostles of natural religion, are most eloquent on this subject. And the numberless vegetable tribes teach us to adore the being, to whom they are indebted for their ex-

istence, their peculiar organization, their dress, their fragrance, and their virtues.

But the wonders, displayed in these departments of nature, cannot exceed those of the human frame. The different parts of all animal bodies, their situation, structure, and economy manifest a wise and benevolent design. Even the most cursory survey of them will be sufficient to inspire those sentiments of devout admiration, which the Psalmist has so well expressed. "Marvellous are thy works ; and that my soul knoweth right well. My substance was not hid from thee, when I was made in secret, and curiously wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. Thine eyes did see my substance, yet being imperfect, and in thy book all my members were written ; which in continuance were fashioned, when as yet there was none of them."*

But though the human frame discloses such wonders, and furnishes such proofs of a wise author, yet its study was not among the early pursuits of mankind. Many causes combined to retard the progress of this important science. Men could turn their eyes toward the heavenly bodies, could compare their magnitudes, observe their motions, and study their laws, without

* Psalm cxxxix. 14, 15, 16.

giving a shock to their superstition. They could likewise range the vegetable kingdom, and minutely inspect its various subjects, without any suspicion of impiety. But to form an acquaintance with the human frame, it must be dissected. And the idea of a dissection filled them with horror. They imagined that a dead body, though a deserted tenement, must still be dear to its former possessor. And for this reason, every indignity offered to the body; was viewed in a very criminal light. Besides, great stress was laid on an early and decent sepulture. Till the last honours were paid, it was supposed, that the departed soul could not be happy. Hence, piety, and even humanity, dictated this office. But if funeral honours were considered as indispensable, and if it was wrong to delay them, no wonder, the remains of dead persons were not submitted to curious examination. And if not examined, how was this branch of knowledge to be promoted? Superstition therefore, must be alleged as one excuse for that ignorance of the animal economy, which reigned during so many ages.

But further, the inspection of human bodies met with discouragements from another quarter; and that is their tendency to immediate putrefaction in those countries, where philosophy was first studied. Civilization, and improve-

ments of every kind, began, it is supposed, in the eastern parts of Asia. But in those parts, animal substances would soon become too offensive for medical examination. To retard the science of the human body, climate therefore, co-operated with superstition. And this pursuit was neglected for the study of the mathematicks, astronomy, poetry, and the fine arts.

The doctrine of a ceremonial uncleanness would have the like unfavourable operation. This doctrine was embraced by the Jews, and adopted by the Mahometans. According to the law of Moses, he who only touched a dead body, was polluted. And this pollution lasted seven days. Nor could the stain be ever washed out, unless certain prescribed forms of purification were religiously observed. With these ideas, no Jew would presume to study the human structure. And as little would a Mahometan be inclined to turn his attention toward this subject.

These are some reasons, and perhaps many more may be assigned for the fact here stated. During many ages, mankind remained in ignorance of the animal economy; because their fears, their customs, the climate, their superstition, and even their religion, would not suffer them to inquire. And we are told, that these causes operated as late as the six-

teenth century. Since that time, superstition has been losing its influence, and a spirit of free inquiry gaining ground. Philosophers have ventured to examine all bodies, which came in their way, that of man not excepted. With the utmost patience, they have laboured to comprehend and explain its laws, its several parts, and their mutual relation. And the most astonishing success has rewarded their application.

But of all the discoveries, which do honour to human ingenuity, there is none which I contemplate with more satisfaction, than that which gave birth to the HUMAN SOCIETIES of Europe and America. And in this, I believe, every philosopher, every physiologist, every christian will unite with me. Mankind had long supposed, that the soul (a mere inhabitant of the body) had quitted it for ever, when respiration ceased. This error was productive of fatal consequences. Appearances of death were mistaken for the reality. And many unfortunate persons, who might have recovered, if proper measures had been used, were consigned to an untimely grave. Yes, we have reason to conclude, that numbers in times past, were literally *buried alive*. Not however, that I would suggest, that they ever awoke to the horrors of their situation. Happy for them, the spark of life, supposed to be already extinguished, quietly expired.

A suspension of *animation* would be absolute death. But *respiration* may cease, and the circulations be interrupted, whilst the vital principle remains. There is a distinction between the actions and powers of life. And the latter may remain, when the former are suspended. There may be in the body a susceptibility of action, long after reflection has ceased, and the usual signs of life subsided. For this discovery, we are indebted to the experimental mode of inquiry, which, of late, has so much prevailed. Philosophers have learned to despise mere theory and conjecture, however ingenious. And like the immortal Newton, they are willing to build their knowledge on experiment. If he deserves great honour for leading the way; no small praise is due to those, who have followed his example.

One fruit of their wisdom, in this instance, is the discovery of means proper to be used with persons apparently dead. Superiour to the terrours of a childish superstition, physicians have operated on bodies in this state; and, by various and patient trials, have formed some general conclusions respecting the spark of life, and the measures by which it may be most speedily blown into a flame. No doubt, the subject is yet imperfectly understood. New light however, is continually arising. And we may hope

that the same ingenuity, which has rescued so many from destruction, will devise a mode of treatment, if possible, more simple in its application, and more certain in its effects. No one can say, to what perfection the healing art will eventually be carried. Some have maintained, that the time will come, when all disorders whatever will yield to the skill of the physician. And a modern philosopher, if I mistake not, has thrown out the suggestion, that a cure may be found even for *old age*. This is carrying human ingenuity too far. Notwithstanding any future improvements in philosophy and medicine, the frame will wear out. And death will continue to be the destroyer of mankind.

But hence it will not follow, that the human frame will not be better understood, than it is in the present age; and that the disorders incident to it, will not be treated with more judgment. Without doubt, the physician will acquire more information; and practise with more success. Appearances of death will be more accurately distinguished from the reality. And a satisfactory answer will be returned to those queries, which the Psalmist has proposed in the following words.—“Wilt thou show wonders to the dead? Shall the dead arise and praise thee? Shall thy loving kindness be declared in the grave? Or thy faithfulness in destruction?”

Shall thy wonders be known in the dark? and thy righteousness in the land of forgetfulness?"*

The mode of treatment, prescribed by the Humane Society of this Commonwealth is, or ought to be, well known to all its members. I shall not therefore, give it a place in this address. But I am bound to observe, that since this mode was introduced, the system has derived great improvements from the researches and experiments of literary persons in other countries. Among these, the names of Kite and Colman deserve to be mentioned with particular respect. The latter, with equal elegance and ingenuity, attempts to answer a question proposed by the Humane Society of London, namely, "whether emeticks, venesection, and electricity, be proper in suspended respiration, and under what circumstances." The former confines his inquiries to the "submersion of animals, its effects on the vital organs, and the most probable method of removing them." To this ingenious physiologist I shall often have occasion to recur in the course of this address.†

* Psalm lxxxviii. 10, 11, 12.

† His thoughts on the submersion of animals may be found in the Third Volume of Memoirs of the Medical Society of London. Article XIV. I acknowledge my obligation to the author for the information, which his experiments and arguments have afforded.

Apparent death may arise from various other causes, beside submerſion, or drowning. Hanging, convulſion fits, ſuffocating dampſ, or vapours, the confined air of wells, cifterns, caves, and the muſt of fermenting liquors, may cauſe the intellectual operations to ceaſe, and ſuſpend ſenſation and voluntary motion. But as theſe evils are rare, compared with drowning, it may be proper to confine our attention more particularly to this accident.

And that I may diſcourſe with ſome tolerable degree of clearneſs, I ſhall conſider the effects produced in the body by ſubmerſion or drowning; and the meaſures to be uſed, in order to counter-act thoſe effects.

The firſt and moſt obvious conſequence of ſubmerſion, and indeed, the ſource of all ſucceeding miſchiefs, is the *ſuſpenſion of reſpiration*. Immerſed in water, an animal ceaſes to breathe. It was formerly taken for granted, that the interruption or abolition of the animal functions in drowned perſons ought to be aſcribed to the intruſion of water into the lungs. And upon this preſumption, the moſt violent meaſures were uſed, to produce a diſcharge. I myſelf have been a witneſs of thoſe meaſures. And I have no doubt, that they have generally completed the evil, which accident had only begun.

But is it a fact, that in submerſion, water does enter the lungs in any great quantity? And if that be the caſe, is it the principal cauſe of real or apparent death? By a courſe of experiments, made and repeated by Dr. Kite, it ſeems, that water rarely, if ever, finds its way into this part of the body. And an experiment of Dr. Goodwyn ſhows, that even upon ſuppoſition it does, the conſequences will not be very injurious. He actually contrived to introduce two ounces of water into the lungs of an animal. Nothing followed but a feeble pulſe, and ſome ſmall difficulty in breathing. And theſe were only a temporary inconvenience. It is highly probable therefore, that the diſeaſe, produced by ſubmerſion, is not to be aſcribed to this cauſe.

It follows then, that the ſigns of life diſappear, and the vital functions are ſuſpended, becauſe reſpiration is ſtopped. But the inquiry will return, how does ſuſpended reſpiration produce its effects? Does it induce a ſtoppage of the circulations chymically, or mechanically? In plain words, is the frame injured, and life endangered, or deſtroyed, becauſe the blood is deprived of certain properties, which it would have acquired from the air; or becauſe it has not a free paſſage through the lungs?

To theſe queries very different answers have been returned. The chymical effects of ſuſ-

pended respiration are contended for by some physiologists ; and its mechanical effects, by others. They who argue on chymical principles, say, that the symptoms, which follow an obstruction of the breath, are to be attributed to a particular quality of the blood. The air received into the lungs has an important effect on this fluid. It gives it, we are told, its florid colour and stimulus. In a state of submerfion then, the following effects must necessarily take place : The vital air, which the animal had previously inspired, will be confumed ; the blood will become black ; as its colour changes, its stimulating power will decrease ; and as the stimulus abates, the contractions of the heart will be proportionably slower. And when the blood has become incapable of exciting the parts, which contain it, all the intellectual and animal operations will cease. According to this account of the animal economy, the patient suffers for want of a certain principle, which the air imparts to the blood.

This theory has undergone a rigid examination ; and it has been proved to be more specious than just. In a paper, presented to the Medical Society of London, by one of its members,* the subject is considered at large. And by a variety of arguments, it is made to appear,

* Charles Kite.

that "the suspension of the action of respiration does not induce a stoppage of the circulation, and its necessary consequences, by chymically depriving the blood of certain properties, which it should acquire from the air; but by mechanically obstructing the passage of the blood through the lungs." By means of this obstruction, there will be an unnatural accumulation of blood on the lungs, and on the right side of the heart. This will crowd the whole venal system. And from this will result, what is styled a compression of the brain. And unless this compression be seasonably removed, death must inevitably ensue. Hence, it is inferred, that the disorder produced by drowning is simply an *apoplexy*. The unnatural congestion of blood, arising from obstructed respiration, does not exert its final effect on the heart, or lungs. The former, on inspection, has been found uninjured; and the latter are known to be passive, and comparatively insensible. The brain therefore, must be the part fatally affected.

Allowing this to be a just representation of facts, reason will point out the remedies to be applied in cases of drowning. The first object is undoubtedly to relieve the brain. To effect this, the lungs must be alternately filled and exhausted. This will enlarge the capacity of the

pulmonary blood-vessels, and consequently give motion to that fluid. And this motion will tend to abate the compression of the brain. Bleeding will likewise promote this salutary effect. Immediate recourse should be had to this operation. And the external jugular vein, according to writers on the subject, is the part from which the blood should be taken. As this doctrine does not perfectly accord with the rules of our Society, its medical members will take it into consideration. The continued application of friction, and external heat, should accompany the measures recommended above. In their utility all physiologists are agreed.*

* Animal heat is a term well known to physicians. And the phenomenon itself has long been a subject of philosophical discussion. Many ingenious treatises have appeared on the subject. But, though the existence of heat in living animals is indisputable, its cause remains undiscovered. We may hope however, that future inquirers will reveal what the father of medicine has accounted a mystery.

But, if ignorant of the cause, we can not doubt the necessity of animal heat. Query then, whether measures to recover this principle are not of very great importance. In submersion, the patient is deprived of a certain portion of that heat, which accompanies animation. It is conveyed from the body by the surrounding water. It is plain therefore, that its restoration should be attempted

Having proceeded thus far, it is maintained, that art can do no more. The original evil being removed, and its consequent effects diminished, the event must depend on "the remaining powers of the constitution." If the vital principle be not essentially weakened, the patient may recover. And this can be determined in no other way, than by experiment. As long as any part of the system can be brought into a state of contraction, the animal "is not dead, but sleepeth." From this circumstance however, we are not to draw too favourable an inference. For it is proved, that the irritability may continue, perhaps two hours after the patient is irrecoverable.

But perhaps it will be asked, whether stimuli, adapted to the different organs of sense, whether the injection of tobacco-smoke, and electricity may not have a salutary operation. The two former are recommended by our Society, and the last has its advocates abroad. In our method of treatment, the third Article is wholly employed on the subject of tobacco-smoke. It is recommended as one of the earliest applica-

as soon as access can be had to the subject. To this end, I am informed, that warm water of the temperature of the living body may be highly conducive. The patient may be immersed in it. Or he may be covered with sand warmed to the same degree.

tions. And it is asserted, that many good effects have arisen from the injection of this vapour. But I would inquire, what those effects can be? Not surely the recovery of the peristaltick motion; for, I am told, that motion does not subside, on the first appearance of death. So far from it, anatomists say, that it has been known to continue more than three hours after respiration had ceased; and that it has even survived the removal of the brain. If so, is it probable that tobacco-smoke, applied agreeably to our directions, should answer all the purposes expected from it?

In the sixth Article, it is said, “the nostrils may be every now and then tickled with a feather: snuff and volatiles should be occasionally made use of, to excite sneezing, if possible.” But if a body be in such a state, that it may be opened, and cut in every direction, without discovering the least sense of pain, is it reasonable to suppose that these stimuli should be productive of any effect?

As to *electricity*, I have learned from those, who have carefully examined the subject, that its utility in the case now before us, is very problematical. Some have gone so far as to say, that in the manner, in which it is generally applied, it has been very injurious. According to the best information, which I have been able to

obtain, the application of the electric stimulus is unnecessary. The heart does not require it, because its contractions continue some time after the external characteristics of life have quitted the body. The brain being a pulpy substance, it can have no influence on that organ. And if the lungs be destitute of muscular fibres, and altogether passive in respiration, they must be in a similar predicament. From these circumstances, some modern physiologists conclude, that electricity, if not absolutely injurious, is, at least, useless. Having thus called in question the fumes of tobacco, snuff, volatiles, the stimulus of the feather, and electricity, we are brought back to our first conclusion, namely, That inflation of the lungs, bleeding, friction, and the communication of moderate heat, are the only measures, in which our present knowledge of the human system will justify a reasonable confidence.

These humble attempts to throw light on the subject, which gave birth to the Humane Institution, will, I flatter myself, be considered with candour. I have not the vanity to suppose, that I have suggested any new thoughts to the anatomist, or furnished any real entertainment to the physician. It would be going perhaps too far, to imagine that I have communicated a new idea to any of the literary characters in this as-

sembly. My deviation however, from the line of my profession, and my intrusion into the medical department, are not without a sufficient excuse in my own mind. The great cause of humanity has been amply considered by those who have gone before me. I can add nothing to their arguments in favour of doing good. Nor can I give a single new charm to that charity, which seeketh not her own. Besides, the original design of this annual address was to take up the subject of apparent death, and to improve, if possible, the method of treatment, to be used in such cases. Our founders enjoined, and the publick expected a medical disquisition. On these facts I rest my apology for the unusual turn given to this discourse.

I cannot however, dismiss the subject, without recommending those lessons of humanity, which you have so often heard from this place. You have been reminded of his bright example, who "came, not to destroy men's lives, but to save them."* You have been told of the good Samaritan, and urged to "go, and do likewise."† The appeal has been made to your own feelings; and you have been led to inquire what those feelings must be, could you say, "this my son,"

* By the Rev. Dr. Lathrop.

† By the Rev. Dr. Howard.

my parent, or my friend, "was dead, and is alive again, was lost, and is found."* You have been melted with the affecting scene, which was displayed near the city of Nain. The distresses of a widow, lamenting the death of an only son, have been tenderly described. And you have been charmed with his goodness, who "when he saw her, had compassion on her, and said weep not."†

By those, who have preceded me in this office, the calls of humanity have been reiterated in your ears. And the godlike pleasure of doing good has been represented in strains, which could not but approve themselves to all, who enter into the spirit of this institution. I therefore, only add, let our practice verify our professions. We have done some good; let it be our generous ambition to do more. The time perhaps may come, when the Humane Society will be, at once an honour and a blessing to the community; when its kindness may flow in new channels; when it may do good on a larger scale; and multitudes may receive its benefactions.

What a pleasing reflection would it afford, could our funds permit us to extend a charita-

* By the Rev. Dr. Thacher.

† By the Rev. Dr. Parker.

ble aid to a numerous class of sufferers in this town? The persons alluded to, are our poor, whose condition calls for universal commiseration. The habitation provided for these sufferers, is wholly inadequate to the purpose. It wants every requisite to a place of refuge for age, sickness, and poverty. The benevolent Howard would say, it is rather a dungeon than an hospital. It can neither be ventilated, nor properly cleansed. And it is altogether disproportioned to the number of those, whom necessity drives to this melancholy retreat. The evils unavoidably resulting from bad air, and filth are notorious. These evils, neither the physician, nor the overseer can prevent. As long as our poor are so ill accommodated, poverty and dependence will be the smallest of their calamities.

How powerfully then, does humanity plead in behalf of these sufferers? Of what importance is it, that they should be provided with a better habitation? How much are the publick honour and character concerned in such a measure? And how sincerely is it to be regretted, that this society cannot exercise its beneficence on these objects? The same principle, which has led us to provide a temporary shelter for the

shipwrecked seaman, would render us ambitious of doing good in every form. With persons so disposed, to prevent misery and certain death, will be an office of no less moment than that, which the Humane Institution has more immediately in contemplation.

But till we can alleviate human affliction to the extent of our wishes, we must be satisfied with doing it to the extent of our ability. The want of success, in times past, must not discourage our future attempts to revive those, who are apparently dead. Inquiry and experiment will, I doubt not, enable us to partake of those triumphs, which have long rewarded the labours of foreign societies. Every signal exertion in behalf of the perishing, will continue to receive its just recompense. And honours or rewards will flow from the Society, according to the quality and circumstances of the agents, who have jeopardized their lives. Whilst gratitude to our benefactors possesses our hearts, the utmost care will be taken, that their benefactions be not misapplied. And it is to be presumed, that all the concerns of the Society will be so administered, as to meet the approbation both of its members, and the publick.

In the various ways of doing good, we have every encouragement, which reason can require.

The pleasures, attending such a course of action, I hope many, whom I now address, know by experience. If they know them, I need not attempt the description. If ignorant of those pleasures, I should despair of doing justice to the subject. I can only say, that they are a delightful earnest of that bliss, which will reward the beneficent in a better world.

The time is coming, when we must all be numbered with the dead. This curious frame will be dissolved, notwithstanding the wisest measures which philosophy can employ, to strengthen and sustain it. But we have no reason to tremble at the prospect. Death is not destruction. He who made us can recover us from the power of the grave, and cause us to exist forever in a state of inconceivable perfection. Human art may fail; and our most judicious attempts to rescue a friend from death, may be unsuccessful. But what can baffle the power of God? He can, and he assuredly will, rouse us from the slumbers of the grave, and give us a most glorious triumph over the last enemy. The divine author of our religion died, rose again, and now liveth forever. And if we imitate his beneficence, we shall partake of his blessedness. Every act of kindness will be recounted hereafter. The

bleffing of him, who was ready to periff, will then come upon us. And every office of humanity, every attempt to do good, every benevolent wiff, will receive an ample reward at the refurrection of the juft.

APPENDIX.

OFFICERS OF THE HUMANE SOCIETY FOR
THE YEAR 1793.

HON. THOMAS RUSSELL, *Esq.* *President.*

JONATHAN MASON, *Esq.* *first Vice President.*

JOHN WARREN, *M. D.* *second Vice President.*

Rev. SIMEON HOWARD, *D. D.* *Treasurer.*

Rev. SAMUEL PARKER, *D. D.* *Corresponding Sec'y.*

JOHN AVERY, *jun. Esq.* *Recording Secretary.*

Rev. JOHN LATHROP, *D. D.*

Rev. PETER THACHER, *D. D.*

Rev. JOHN CLARKE.

Dr. THOMAS WELSH.

AARON DEXTER, *M. D.*

NATHANIEL BALCH, *Esq.*

} Trustees.

The SOCIETY have received the following COMMUNICATIONS, since their last publication.

Dr. LYMAN'S *Letter to the second Vice President.*

York, October 26, 1792.

DEAR SIR,

AS communications to you upon the restoration of life, after a suspension of the vital functions from submersion, would be wished for, and finding from experiment, the method which the Humane Society of this Commonwealth recommended, proved successful in a drowned person, I shall relate the circumstances with exactness. On June, 1790, Ebenezer Littlefield, aged fifteen, of a lively active make, being in a swimming with some other of his companions, but venturing where the

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water was deep, and unused to swimming, became much frightened, and lost all power of muscular action. He sunk down to the bottom of the River, which was about ten feet deep, came up immediately, but made no noise nor exertions for his own preservation. He sunk again the second time, but came up, and then went down for the third and last time. But fortunately, Mr. Jeremiah Clarke being near, and hearing the noise and distress of those lads who were in the water with him, ran to the water, and understanding what was the matter, took a small pole which lay near, and went into the water with all his clothes on, up as high as his arm-pits. Mr. Clarke discovered the lad; the water being clear, he pushed the pole under him gradually, and then gently drew the pole towards himself; and by that means drew the lad so near that he took hold of him, and carried him on shore; which was at least twenty minutes from the time Mr. Clarke first saw him. Mr. Clarke observed that his blood appeared to be stagnated from the blue discolorations on his skin, and that his lungs were in a complete state of collapse, and to appearance, there was a total extinction of life. Mr. Clarke recollecting the method recommended by the Humane Society for drowned persons; after clearing his mouth and nose from mucus, &c. he exposed the body to a current of air, and inflated the lungs, and used frictions throughout the body, and concussions, heat, &c. By persisting in this method a short time, the lad began to respire, and to catch the air with his mouth expanded. I was sent for, being distant about five miles, and found him in an insensible state. His respiration was short, pulse quick, no reason nor strength, in short, all muscular motion was suspended, his body was much swelled. I immediately ordered a blanket to be spread on the floor, and had the lad laid on

it, and then blew up tobacco smoke into his body by means of a tobacco pipe. These measures were accompanied with friction, with dry clothes, and rolling for some time, by which means we obtained a discharge of water by the anus, likewise an urinary evacuation, and a gentle diaphoresis. We applied stimulants to his nose, and put him to bed, and heat him with a warming-pan. He now appeared to be much stronger, and spoke once or twice incoherently. In the course of the night, he drank some water camphorated. The next day I saw him, he was sensible, but much debilitated and could scarcely walk, but he had no recollection of what had happened after his first sinking in the water, till some time in the night, about fourteen hours after. On the second day after, he had two epileptick fits, I gave him a dose of emet tart, which operated well, and an anodyne after, which relieved him, and is now in perfect health and strength.

I am yours with great respect,

WILLIAM LYMAN.

Dr. JOHN WARREN.

Extracts from two Letters from Dr. WILLIAM HAWES, Register of the Royal Humane Society, in London, directed to the Corresponding Secretary.

“THE honour* the *Massachusetts Humane Society* have conferred on me, cannot but be highly gratifying to one, who has for many years, been unremittingly engaged in the most pleasing of all pursuits—“ the

* *The Right Hon. Earl of Stamford, President, John C. Lettsom, M. D. Treasurer, and William Hawes, M. D. Register of the Royal Humane Society, in London, were elected Honourary Members of the Massachusetts Humane Society, in August 1792.*

preservation of the lives of his fellow-creatures." I beg you to return my most grateful acknowledgments, for the distinguished honour conferred.

"I am persuaded you will not doubt my sincerity, when I express a wish that your Society may be productive of all that advantage to mankind, which hearts like their's can desire; nor when I assure you, it is my earnest prayer to Heaven, their lives may be long spared to promote and enjoy this work of benevolence and humanity.

"Please to present my best thanks to the Trustees of the *Massachusetts Humane Society*, for the very genteel present of Mr. Bartlet's ingenious Discourse. The well-digested and truly sensible Appendix, afforded me the highest satisfaction; it consists of many things highly interesting to the philanthropic cause in which we are jointly embarked.

Dr. Wilkins's case is very striking, and his happy success should animate all medical men, and indeed all mankind, to be extremely cautious and very circumspect in pronouncing the final doom of their fellow-creatures."

Dr. RUSH's *Letter to the President,*

SIR,

I AM directed by the Humane Society of Philadelphia to return you their thanks for your acceptable publications delivered to them by Colonel Pickering. We rejoice to find that the endeavours of the Humane Society of Massachusetts over which you preside, have been so successful in disseminating knowledge upon the important subject, of the means of preserving human life. We enclose you copies of two publications which have been circulated in Pennsylvania and in the adjoining

States, and we hope with good effects. The publication marked No. 2, was posted up last summer in all the public parts of our city.

From its influence, aided by former addressses to our fellow citizens, upon the same subjects, we have reason to believe, that many lives have been saved. Some years ago, it was common for twenty or thirty people to perish in our city in a summer from drinking cold water, while they were heated by labour. But in the course of the two last summers, we have lost only two citizens from that cause. It is extremely agreeable to find the directions of our society upon that subject so generally, and so carefully complied with, by the most illiterate of our citizens. It proves that there is no knowledge essential to the life or happiness of our fellow creatures, that may not be made to produce its intended effects, provided that *industry*, and *means* suited to those great *ends* be employed for that purpose. These means are of so simple a nature, that I conceive they might easily be made as familiar objects of knowledge in all our schools, as they now are in the closets of philosophers. We teach our children many things that are much more difficult, and few things that are of half that consequence to them, that such articles of knowledge would be, in their future pursuits and business in life. With great respect for your public and private character,

I am, Sir,

Your friend, and fellow citizen

BENJAMIN RUSH.

Philadelphia, 9th March, 1793.

THOMAS RUSSELL, Esq.

*President of the Humane Society of the
Commonwealth of Massachusetts.*

Extract from the Publication referred to in the Letter.
 To prevent the fatal Effects of drinking cold Water, or cold Liquors of any kind in warm weather.

1st. **A**VOID drinking while you are warm, or, 2^{dly}, Drink only a small quantity at once, and let it remain a short time in your mouth before you swallow it; or,

3^{dly}. Grasp the vessel out of which you are about to drink (provided it is made of glass, earthen ware, or metal) for a few minutes, with both your hands, for each of these substances conveys off a portion of the heat of the body into the cold liquor, and thereby lessens the danger which arises from the excessive heat of the body, and the coldness of the liquor, or,

4^{thly}, Wash your hands and face, and rinse your mouth with cold water before you drink. If these precautions have been neglected, and the disorder incident to drinking cold water hath been produced, the first, and in most instances, the only remedy to be administered, is sixty drops of liquid laudanum in spirit and water, or warm drink of any kind.

If this should fail of giving relief, the same quantity may be repeated every twenty minutes, until the pain and spasms abate.

When laudanum cannot be obtained, rum and water, or warm water should be given. Bleeding should not be used without consulting a physician.

THE Committee for examining the accounts of the Rev. Dr. *Howard*, Treasurer of the Humane Society, find that there remains on the general account a balance of £ 1 11 11²/₇: That the proceeds of the share in Malden Bridge for the last year, amounting (with a former balance) to £ 10 15 2, have all been vested in the

funds, and produced forty dollars, six per cent. stock :
 And that the following securities remain in the hands of
 the said Treasurer.

	Dols.	Cts.
Six per cent. stock	144 ²	72
Three per cent. do.	708	83
Deferred do.	334	58
Unassumed do.	114	14
Promissory note	£40 lawful money and interest.	
Evidence of one right in Malden Bridge.		
Outstanding subscriptions amounting to	£77 2 8	

PREMIUMS adjudged by the TRUSTEES, for signal exertions in behalf of Persons who must otherwise have perished.

		£.	s.	d.	
1792.	June.	T O B. Buckman, for saving a child,	1	4	0
			To J. Andrews, for saving a negro,	0	12
	July.	To J. Carey, for saving a child,	1	4	0
		To J. Oliver, for saving a child,	0	18	0
		To J. Brewer, for saving a woman,	0	18	0
	Aug.	To Ward and Story, for saving a man,	1	4	0
		To P. C. Harris, for saving a boy,	0	6	0
	Dec.	To H. Jones, for saving a man,	0	9	0
		To J. Smith, for saving two children,	1	8	0
		To S. Blodget, for saving a boy,	1	8	0
1793.	Jan.	To J. Warden and others, for saving a man,	1	4	0
		To S. Delano, jun. for saving the crew of the Ship Rodney, wrecked on Duxborough beach, a medal of gold, value,	4	12	4
		To R. Hall, jun. for saving a boy, a medal of silver, value,	1	13	0

1793.

<i>Feb.</i>	To J. Butler and others, for saving a boy,	0	12	0
	To B. Howard for taking up a dead body,	0	12	0
<i>Mar.</i>	To P. Geyer and others, for saving the lives of several persons wrecked on Long-Island,	2	8	0
<i>May.</i>	To Sarah Miller, for the use of her son, for his exertions in saving a man,	0	18	0
	To certain persons, inhabitants of Cohasset, for saving a ship's crew,	7	0	0
<i>June.</i>	To T. Scudder for saving a child,	0	6	0

HONORARY MEMBERS *elected since the last publication.*

THE Right Hon. the EARL of STAMFORD,
President of the Royal Humane Society, London.

WILLIAM HAWES, M. D. Register of said Society.

JOHN C. LETTSOM, M.D. F.R.S. and A.A.S. Treasurer of said Society.

TIMOTHY PICKERING, Esq. Post-master General of the United States.

Dr. JOHN OSBORNE, of Middletown, Connecticut.

NATHANIEL ADAMS, Esq. of Portsmouth, N. H.

The Rev. Dr. ERSKINE, of Edinburgh.

The Hon. JOHN PICKERING, Esq. of Portsmouth, N. H.

Dr. A. CUTTER, of Portsmouth, N. H.

The Hon. JOHN LANGDON, of Portsmouth, N. H.

Capt. JOHN CALEF, of the island of St. Kitts.

Dr. BENJAMIN RUSH, of Philadelphia.

THE END.

